

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9 as follows:

Loop sections 28 and 30 are formed with respective V-shaped notches or dents 32 and 34 for enabling a use of the loop in a second, smaller size shown in Figs. 3 and 5. In this smaller deployment configuration, loop 18 is suitable for the harvesting of a small polyp SP, as depicted in Fig. 5. More specifically, notches or dents 32 and 34 facilitate the use of a distal end portion 36 of loop ~~[[16]]~~ 18, which is bounded by the notches or dents on the proximal side and nose 26 on the distal side, as a smaller, auxiliary loop.

Amend the second full paragraph on page 9 (lines 6-8) as follows:

Loop 18 generally lies in a single plane. Notches or dents 32 and 34 also lie in that same plane and face through the inside of the loop. In other words, the notch or dent 32, 34 of each loop section 28, 30 extends toward the other loop section 30, 32. Notches or dents 32 and 34 are indentations or dimples, local deformations in loop 18, that do not affect the overall shape of the loop or the directions of loop sections 28 and 30.

Amend the paragraph bridging pages 11 and 12 as follows:

In an alternative use of the instrument structure shown in Figs. 6 and 7, loop 18 is electrically non-conductive or free of any connection to a voltage or current source. In that case, the instrument of Fig. 6 functions solely as a specimen retrieval basket or capture device. Fig. 6 shows loop 18 and pouch 58 in a fully extended and ~~[[fully]]~~ fully opened configuration for the retrieval of a large specimen, whereas Fig. 7 shows the loop and the pouch partially drawn into

the distal end of tubular member 12 so that the distal end portion of loop 36 forms an auxiliary loop with a portion of pouch 58 depending there from for the retrieval of a small tissue specimen. Again, the instrument of Figs. 6 and 7 may be used to retrieve multiple tissue masses of different sizes, without having to withdraw the endoscope after each capture.